

Edgemar, Pacific Manor, Manor Village, Westview, Sharp Park, Fairway Park, Vallemar, Rockaway Beach, Linda Mar, and Pedro Point—were joined together and incorporated as the city of Pacifica.

The name given the new city is the Spanish word for “peace”—“pacific.” Although the area has a long and distinguished Spanish heritage, the name of the city does not derive from the early Spanish settlers or explorers of that area. It was the product of a contest held in 1957 to find an appropriate name for the newly incorporated city. The winning name was derived from an 80-foot statue by sculptor Ralph Stackpole, which was created as the theme symbol for the Golden Gate International Exposition held on Treasure Island in 1939–1940. Although the 80-foot statue was destroyed after the Exposition, two of the sculptor’s working models have been saved and both are now in Pacifica—one is over the front stairs of the Pacifica City Hall and the other is in the city council chambers.

“Wisdom in Progress” is the slogan adopted when the city was incorporated, and that phrase has indeed marked the development of Pacifica since its establishment. The city has constructed a fishing pier, an important facility for visitors and residents to enjoy the ocean. Pacifica has also fostered a number of important projects to establish and improve the outstanding quality of life its fortunate residents enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I invite the Congress to join with me today in extending congratulations and best wishes to the 40,000 residents of Pacifica on the important 40th anniversary of the founding of this excellent city.

VETERANS’ COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 1997

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2367, a bill to increase the rates of compensation for veteran’s with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain veterans. This bill will strengthen our Nation’s efforts to continue to provide veterans with a suitable quality of life. I would like to commend Chairman STUMP, Congressman EVANS, and the Veteran’s Committee for continued dedication, leadership, and hard work on these measures and others affecting the veterans’ community.

America’s veterans have stood as the vanguards of freedom and prosperity. So many of them have put their lives in harm’s way so that the guiding principles that we hold so dear remain protected. Just as they fought on the front lines protecting the security of our great Nation, we must lead the charge in the battle for their well being and security.

This measure will direct the Secretary of Veteran’s Affairs to compute and provide increases in the monthly rates of disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation, effective December 1, 1997. The rates will be increased by the same percentage as Social Security. This increase will

help our disabled veterans and their families offset the cost of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index. Since the COLA is assumed in the budget resolution baseline, the bill would have no budgetary effect relative to the baseline as modified by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Again, I would like to commend the committee for its dedication, leadership, and vision in passing H.R. 2367. This bill will allow us to continue to fortify this Nation’s commitment to provide our veterans with a better quality of life. More importantly, we owe our veterans no less than the dedication and commitment that they have given to protecting the noble ideals and principles of this great Nation. Once more, I express my strong support for this bill, and I urge my colleagues to take a stand on behalf of veterans and support this important bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 1997

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to the recent death of my father and my attendance at his funeral services, I was unable to cast votes on many issues considered during the week of October 27, 1997. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted as follows:

Tuesday, October 28, 1997: Rollcall 532, “No”; rollcall 533, “Yes”; rollcall 534, “Yes”.

Wednesday, October 29, 1997: Rollcall 535, “No”; rollcall 536, “Yes”; rollcall 537, “Yes”; rollcall 538, “Yes”; rollcall 539, “Yes”; rollcall 540, “Yes”; rollcall 541, “Yes”; rollcall 542, “Yes”; rollcall 543, “Yes”; rollcall 544, “Yes”.

Thursday, October 30, 1997: Rollcall 545, “Yes”; rollcall 546, “No”; rollcall 547, “No”; rollcall 548, “No”; rollcall 549, “Yes”; rollcall 550, “No”; rollcall 551, “No”; rollcall 552, “No”; rollcall 553, “No”; rollcall 554, “No”; rollcall 555, “Yes”; rollcall 556, “No”; rollcall 558, “Yes”; rollcall 559, “Yes”; rollcall 560, “Yes”; rollcall 561, “Yes”; rollcall 562, “Yes”; rollcall 563, “Yes”; rollcall 564, “Yes”; rollcall 565, “Yes”.

Friday, October 31, 1997: Rollcall 566, “Yes”; rollcall 567, “Yes”.

CHARTER SCHOOLS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD P. “BUCK” McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2616) to amend titles VI and X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve and expand charter schools:

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2616, the Charter Schools Amendments Act.

H.R. 2616 is one of a series of critical education bills House Republicans have scheduled for consideration during this Congress.

H.R. 2616 builds upon our goals of returning control to our local communities and increas-

ing parental choice by providing additional resources to assist States in creating new, innovative charter schools.

During the last year, I attended several hearings throughout the country on charter schools. During our visits, committee members heard from parents, teachers, administrators, and students who credited the success of their schools because they no longer operate under burdensome education rules regulations.

One principal stated her view of the charter school process as, “a waiver of all waivers. We don’t have to apply for waivers any more. We dream those big dreams, set those high standards, and we meet those missions.”

I was struck most, however, by the enthusiasm and interest shown by the parents and students.

Parents felt empowered by their newfound ability to fully participate in their children’s education. For example, many serve on decisionmaking boards, monitor and assist in classes, and help maintain school grounds.

Likewise, students expressed a new sense of responsibility and achievement not found at their old public schools. Many of the schools provided these students with individual attention, smaller classrooms, and original programs.

H.R. 2616 builds on these types of successes by carefully targeting funds to those States which emphasize autonomy, open the doors for new charter schools, and demand accountability.

In closing, I want to thank my colleague and fellow subcommittee chairman, Mr. Riggs, for his outstanding work in bringing this important legislation to the floor.

And, I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for the Charter Schools Amendments Act.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, due to a technical error I was omitted as a cosponsor of H.R. 2676, the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1997, but wanted the fact that I was an early supporter of this legislation known as a matter of record.

I am a strong supporter of the IRS restructuring and reform bill. I think the time has come to significantly restructure the Internal Revenue Service [IRS]. Recently, incidents of abuse within the IRS have been spotlighted at congressional hearings proving what many of us have suspected all along: that certain divisions within the IRS believe that a taxpayer is guilty until proven innocent.

This bill is really quite historic. It will provide a major overhaul of the IRS, and give citizens who become involved in disputes with the IRS 28 new protections designed to enhance taxpayer rights. One of the most important things this bill will do is to strengthen the rights of taxpayers by placing the burden of proof in certain disputed cases, on the IRS, rather than on the taxpayer.

I am such a strong supporter of this legislation because, even in the relatively short time